

## ELIZA REEVES.

[To accompany Bill H. R. No. 467.]

MARCH 23, 1860.

Mr. STOKES, from the Committee on Invalid Pensions, made the following

## REPORT.

*The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred the petition of Eliza Reeves, report:*

That having examined the case, the proofs show that the petitioner is the widow of Samuel S. Reeves. It appears from the evidence of C. H. Gorden, who was with said Reeves as a seaman in the United States frigate "Java" in 1827, 1828, 1829 and 1830, he was in the marine corps. The petitioner also sailed in United States sloop-of-war, "Ontario" in 1833, 1834 and 1835; also in the United States ship "North Carolina" in 1836, 1837 and 1838. Captain W. H. Lattimer testifies that he (Reeves) served under said Lattimer, on board the sloop-of-war "Cyane" in 1840 and 1841, as master-at-arms. The last position of said Reeves was a very responsible one, and he discharged his duty faithfully and satisfactory. Again in 1847, while he, Captain Lattimer, commanded the navy yard at Pensacola, Florida, he employed said Reeves as overseer of yard, and again compliments him highly. The petitioner was on board the United States schooner "Flirt." He was called off by reason of his faithfulness, as he could serve the government better as an overseer. In September, 1847, the yellow fever made its appearance in the navy yard; his position exposed him to it, having to attend the naval hospital, a mile or two distant; he took the disease in the latter part of September, and died. P. G. Howle, of the adjutant and inspector's office, testifies that Reeves was a private, promoted to corporal in 1832, to sergeant in 1834, and discharged in 1837. E. Foster, of the United States Pension office, states, in a letter to petitioner, that said Reeves died of yellow fever while in the line of his duty in the service. It appears that said Reeves was discharged from the schooner "Flirt" on the 30th of August, 1847, about two weeks prior to his death, and transferred to the navy yard. The claim of the petitioner for a pension was rejected at the Pension office on the ground that she was not entitled in accordance with a literal construction of the law granting pensions to those officers and seamen dying in the service of the United States.

Your committee therefore concur in recommending that she be granted a pension, at the rate of \$9 per month, commencing January 1, 1860, and to continue during her widowhood, and report a bill accordingly.